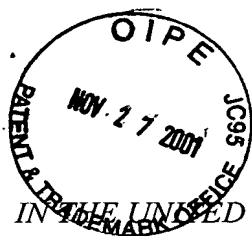


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group: 3752  
Confirmation No.: 7380  
Application No.: 09/934,052  
Invention: METHOD AND APPARATUS  
FOR PERCUTANEOUSLY  
SECURING A BONE SCREW  
AND A BONE PLATE TO A  
BONE OF A PATIENT  
Applicant: David Gregory Kitchens  
Filed: August 21, 2001  
Attorney  
Docket: 14291-68335  
Examiner: Unknown

Certificate Under 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

on 11/21/01

Karla L. Mays  
(Signature)

Karla L. Mays  
(Printed Name)

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This statement is filed in the application identified above pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. No representation is intended that a complete search has been made of the prior art or that no better art references than listed below are available. A copy of each reference is provided for review by the Examiner. The filing of this Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §1.56(b).

None of the cited art is believed to disclose or suggest the invention recited in the claims of the above-identified application. It is therefore believed that the claimed invention is patentably distinguishable over these references.

Please charge any fees that might be due in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement to our Deposit Account No. 10-0435. An extra copy of this Information Disclosure Statement is enclosed for that purpose.

Respectfully submitted,

BARNES & THORNBURG

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shawn D. Bauer", is written over a horizontal line.

Shawn D. Bauer

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INDS02 SDB 415473v1